

Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS U. S. D. A.

SS-8

MAR 24 1944

JUNE 30, 1943

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CROPS

Total *wheat* production, based on indications June 1, forecast at 730½ million bushels, 26 percent less than last year and 1 percent below 10-year average (1932-41).

Indicated *winter wheat* production 501.7 million bushels, about 29 percent less than last year and 9 percent below average.

Spring wheat, according to June 1 indications, placed at 228.8 million bushels, about 18 percent below last year but 22 percent above average. Spring wheat has replaced abandoned winter crops in some States. Dry weather in the Southwest may cut winter wheat yield.

Rye crop indicated by June 1 conditions 33.8 million bushels, compared with 57.3 million last year and 38.6 the 1932-41 average.

Oats crop indicated 1,169 million bushels, compared with 1,359 million last year and 1,019 million average.

Barley crop indicated 371 million bushels, compared with 426 million last year and 243 million average.

Peach crop indicated 45.2 million bushels, compared with 66.4 million bushels last year and 55.4 million average. *Pear* crop indicated 24.3 million bushels, compared with 30.7 million bushels last year and 27.9 average.

Condition of *hay* crop June 1 was 83 percent, compared with 86 a year ago and 75 average that date. Condition of *pasture* 84, compared with 88 a year ago and 76 average.

WHEAT

Domestic wheat supply for 1943-44 now indicated

about 1,320 million bushels, compared with 1,613 million in 1942-43. Supply predicated on probable 731 million bushels new crop and carry-over July 1 of about 590 million. Foregoing carry-over figure derived from estimated disappearance this year of about 1 billion bushels, largest on record. Disappearance in coming year expected to be even larger, around 1.1 billion bushels. If such supply and demand conditions eventuate, it would mean considerably smaller carry-over next July.

World wheat production, excluding USSR and China, may be 10 to 15

percent below the 4.24 billion bushels estimated for 1942 - reflecting a large reduction in North America, offset only in small part by better prospects in Europe and India. Wheat stocks July 1, 1943 in four major exporting countries - Canada, United States, Argentina and Australia - expected to be about 1.8 billion bushels. This is large enough to take care of normal world trade for three years.

Total United States *rye* supplies for 1943-44 indicated about 76 million bushels, consisting of carry-over about 42 million and prospective crop of 34 million. This would be second largest supply since 1922.

PIG SURVEY

Annual June survey showed spring pig crop this year about 74 million head; this is about 13 million head or 22 percent larger than the 1942 spring crop.

Fall pig crop this year indicated about 53 million head, judging from farmers' reports on sows bred or to be bred for fall farrowing. Such fall crop would be 9 million head or 21 percent above 1942 fall pig crop.

These spring and fall pig crops combined would total about 127 million head, compared with 105 million head in 1942 and a 10-year average of 73 million.

Estimated number of hogs over six months old, on farms June 1, (36¼ million) far exceeded number in any other year; 26 percent above June 1, 1942.

LIVESTOCK

Number of *hogs* slaughtered under Federal inspection during May totaled 5.4 million head, 20 percent more than in April and 24 percent above May last year.

Was largest inspected slaughter on record for the month. Hogs slaughtered were chiefly from 1942 fall pig crop (which was estimated last December to have been 23 percent larger than the fall crop of 1941).

Stocks of pork in storage June 1 totaled 519 million pounds, about 40 million less than year earlier and 100 million under average. Lard stocks were 163 million pounds or about 45 million above year previous and slightly above average. Into-storage movement of lard and rendered pork fat 14 million pounds; net out-movement of pork 5 million

PARITY PRICES FOR FARM PRODUCTS AND ACTUAL PRICES RECEIVED¹

COMMODITY AND UNIT	ACTUAL PRICE		PARITY PRICE
	MAY 15 1943	JUNE 15 1943	JUNE 15 1943
Cotton, lb. ct.	20.09	19.96	20.34
Wheat, bu. ct.	122.8	124	145
Corn, bu. ct.	103.4	106	105
Oats, bu. ct.	61.2	64.8	65.4
Potatoes, bu. ct.	190.7	188	118.4
Cattle, 100 lb. dol.	12.91	12.80	8.89
Calves, 100 lb. dol.	14.30	14.20	11.10
Hogs, 100 lb. dol.	13.90	13.60	11.90
Lambs, 100 lb. dol.	13.83	13.50	9.64
Eggs, doz. ct.	34.2	35.2	28.9
Chickens, live, lb. ct.	24.7	25.1	18.7
Butterfat, lb. ct.	50.6	49.2	39.5
Milk, wholesale, 100 lb. . . dol.	3.03	3.02	2.33

¹Prices are shown for only those commodities except cotton for which 5 percent or more of annual sales are made by farmers during June. ²Adjusted for seasonal variation.

pounds—each about usual change for May. Accumulation of large storage stocks of pork now restricted under Food Distribution Order 48.

Number of *cattle* slaughtered under Federal inspection during May 774,000 head, 3 percent less than in April and 13 percent below May last year. Slaughter for the 5 months January-May was 9 percent under like period last year. Calf slaughter during May 328,000 head, 30 percent less than year earlier while January-May total was down 23 percent.

Inspected slaughter of *sheep and lambs* during May 1.6 million head, 11 percent above April and 10 percent above May last year. Largest slaughter on record for the month. Large part of increase was on the West Coast, where restrictions have been eased to relieve civilian meat shortage; this has resulted in smaller-than-usual number of spring lambs coming East recently.

FEED

Crop prospects in early June less favorable for feed grains than they were last year. Given favorable conditions through fall feed supply of about 135 million tons might be expected; would be 12 percent smaller than last year although about 12 percent larger than 1937-41 average. In this event the quantity of feed grains fed to livestock could be maintained at about 95 percent of last year by cutting down reserve stocks to a minimum. Number of grain-consuming animal units on farms next January expected to be 5 to 10 percent larger than year previous and about 25 percent above 1938-42 average.

DAIRY

Milk production per cow on June 1 was 2.6 percent below year previous. Although there are 1 percent more cows on farms, total milk production in May was 2 percent under a year earlier. Pasture conditions have improved, however, and final figures may show June milk output larger than a year ago.

Storage stocks of *butter* have increased rapidly since May 1 under the 50 percent set-aside order. During May the DPMA bought 72 million pounds of butter which will be used mainly to meet military and lend-lease needs later in year. Stocks of cheese likewise accumulating, although production of cheese this spring ran less than year ago.

POULTRY AND EGGS

Number of young chickens on farms June 1 was 15 percent larger than year previous. Market receipts of live birds, however, smaller during early June than in like weeks last year. January-May output of baby chicks

from commercial hatcheries 15.5 percent larger than a year ago.

Egg production during May was 13 percent larger than previous May. Egg output normally will decline until seasonal low point in November but probably will continue larger than last year. Wholesale prices of eggs advanced 1 to 4 cents a dozen in month ending May-June; egg-feed price ratio most favorable on record for that period. January-May egg production was 14 percent (9.8 million cases) larger than same months last year.

FARM LABOR

Total number of persons employed on farms June 1 was 11,659,000, about 2 percent fewer than year previous and about 5 percent under June average 1937-41. Decrease in employment under last year almost entirely in hired workers; number of farm family workers about the same as year ago. Number of hired workers June 1 was 2,697,000, compared with 2,880,000 year previous and 2,975,000 June average 1937-41. Farm wages up 37 percent this year over last; wage index 251 (1910-14 = 100), highest wages on record. Year ago wage index was 183. Highest wages reported from Pacific States, 50 percent above year ago; Eastern States about 25 percent higher, Southern States about 35 percent. Farmers are working longer hours: Average working day June 1 this year 12.8 hours, about $\frac{1}{4}$ hour longer than working day a year ago. Many youngsters helping with farm work; 13 percent of farm workers reported under 14 years of age, compared with 4 percent April 1, 1942. Surveys also indicate more women working.

FARM INCOME

Cash income from farm marketings during May estimated at \$1,393 million, compared with 1,322 million in April and 993 million in May 1942. Government payments in May amounted to \$40 million, compared with 65 million in April and 37 million year ago. Total of cash income and Government payments \$1,433 million in May, compared with 1,387 million in April and 1,030 million in May last year. Total income for the five months January-May, not including Government payments, \$6,412 million, compared with \$4,714 million in same months last year. Government payments for the five months \$376 million this year, compared with \$389 million last year.

For more detailed information, write the Division of Economic Information, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., or telephone Republic 4142 - Branch 4407.

CURRENT INDEXES FOR AGRICULTURE

INDEX NUMBERS	BASE PERIOD	JUNE 1943
Prices received by farmers	1910-14 = 100	190
Prices paid by farmers, interest and taxes	1910-14 = 100	164
Parity ratio		116
Wholesale prices of food	1910-14 = 100	169
Retail prices of food	1910-14 = 100	185
Farm wage rates	1910-14 = 100	251
Weekly factory earnings	1910-14 = 100	2387
RATIOS	LONG-TIME JUNE AVERAGE	JUNE 1943
Hog-corn ratio, U. S.	10.7	12.8
Butterfat-feed ratio, U. S.	22.1	23.7
Milk-feed ratio, U. S.	1.09	1.28
Egg-feed ratio, U. S.	13.9	16.9
PRODUCTION COMPARISONS	JAN.-MAY 1942	JAN.-MAY 1943
Milk, (Mil. lb.)	49,108	49,061
Eggs, (Mil.)	24,518	28,048
Beef, ³ (Dr. wt., mil. lb.)	2,524	2,304
Pork and lard ³ (Dr. wt., mil. lb.)	3,999	4,625
All meats, ³ (Dr. wt., mil. lb.)	7,093	7,431

¹May figure. ²Factory pay roll per employed worker adjusted for seasonal variation. May figure. ³Federally inspected slaughter.